

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1.-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

depositing at least one stent in a pan;

tilting the pan with respect to a horizontal plane such that an axis of rotation of the pan extends ~~at an acute angle~~ parallel to the horizontal plane;

rotating the pan about the axis to tumble the stent in the pan; and

spraying a coating substance into the rotating pan onto the tumbling stent.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the coating substance comprises a polymer dissolved in a fluid.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the coating substance further comprises an active agent.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, additionally comprising blowing ~~air~~ a gas into the rotating pan.

20. (Canceled)

21. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the pan is rotated between about 5 revolutions per minute (rpm) and about 400 rpm about the rotating axis.

22. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the active agent inhibits restenosis.
23. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the gas comprises air.
24. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the gas has a temperature between about 15° C and 200° C.
25. (New) The method of claim 16, additionally including heating the implantable device prior to the application of the coating substance.
26. (New) A method for coating an implantable medical device, comprising:
placing at least one implantable medical device in a coating pan;
tumbling the at least one implantable medical device in the coating pan; and
introducing a coating substance to the tumbling implantable medical device to coat the implantable device with the coating substance, wherein the implantable medical device is tumbled in the coating pan by shaking the coating pan.
27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the implantable medical device is a stent.
28. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the coating substance comprises a polymer dissolved in a fluid.
29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the coating substance further comprises an active agent.
30. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising directing a gas over the tumbling implantable medical device to aid drying of the coating substance.
31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the gas has a temperature between about 15° C and 200° C.

32. (New) The method of claim 26, additionally including heating the implantable medical device prior to the application of the coating substance.

33. (New) A method, comprising:
depositing at least one stent in a pan, wherein the pan is tilted with respect to the horizontal plane such that an axis of rotation of the pan extends parallel to the horizontal plane;
rotating the pan about the axis to tumble the stent in the pan; and
applying a coating substance into the rotating pan onto the tumbling stent.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the coating substance comprises a polymer dissolved in a solvent and optionally an active agent added thereto.

35. (New) The method of claim 33, additionally comprising blowing a gas into the rotating pan.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the gas has a temperature between about 15° C and 200° C.

37. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the pan is rotated between about 5 revolutions per minute (rpm) and about 400 rpm about the axis of rotation.